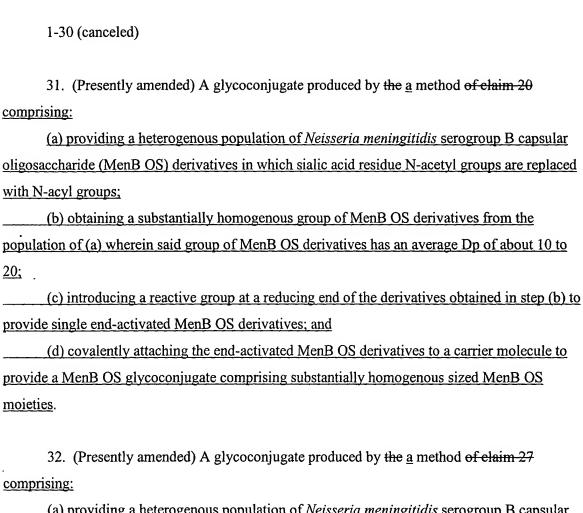
Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:



- comprising:
- (a) providing a heterogenous population of Neisseria meningitidis serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) derivatives in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with N-propionyl groups;
- (b) obtaining a substantially homogenous group of MenB OS derivatives from the population of (a) wherein said MenB OS derivatives have an average Dp of about 12 to 18;
- (c) introducing a reactive group at a reducing end of the derivatives obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS derivatives; and

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(d) covalently attaching the end-activated MenB OS derivatives to a CRM₁₉₇ bacterial toxoid carrier molecule to provide a MenB OS/CRM₁₉₇ toxoid glycoconjugate comprising substantially homogenous sized MenB OS moieties.

33-42. (Canceled)

- 43. (New) The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the reactive group introduced in step (c) comprises an active ester group.
- 44. (New) The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups of the MenB OS derivatives are replaced with N-propionyl groups.
- 45. (New) The glycoconjugate of claim 44, wherein the carrier molecule is a bacterial toxoid.
- 46. (New) The glycoconjugate of claim 45, wherein the carrier molecule is a nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid.
- 47. (New) The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the MenB OS derivative has an average Dp of about 12 to about 18.
- 48. (New) The glycoconjugatge of claim 31, wherein the MenB OS derivative further comprises a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid covalently attached thereto.
- 49. (New) The glycoconjugate of claim 32, wherein the MenB OS derivative further comprises a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid covalently attached thereto.